

## CLAIMS

1. A computer program product for backing up a program and a plurality of user instances of said program, said program product comprising:

a computer readable medium;

first program instructions to backup definitions of queues used by the program instances;

second program instructions to backup authorizations for said queues;

third program instructions to backup a plurality of program-instance configuration files for said plurality of program instances, respectively; and

fourth program instructions to backup a configuration file for said program; and

wherein said first, second, third and fourth program instructions are recorded on said medium.

2. A program product as set forth in claim 1 wherein said queues are message queues.

3. A program product as set forth in claim 1 further comprising fifth program instructions to backup user exits for said program and program instances; and wherein said fifth program instructions are recorded on said medium.

4. A program product as set forth in claim 1 wherein said first, second, third and fourth program instructions are executed as a continuous program flow such that said backups are substantially consistent with each other.

5. A program product as set forth in claim 1 wherein said first program instructions request said definitions of said queues from a program instance, and said second program instructions request said authorizations from said program instance.
6. A program product as set forth in claim 1 wherein said program is a middleware program.
7. A computer system for backing up a program and a plurality of user instances of said program, said system comprising:
  - means for backing up definitions of queues used by the program instances;
  - means for backing up authorizations for said queues;
  - means for backing up a plurality of program-instance configuration files for said plurality of program instances, respectively; and
  - means for backing up a configuration file for said program.
8. A system as set forth in claim 7 wherein said queues are message queues.
9. A system as set forth in claim 7 further comprising means for backing up user exits for said program and program instances.
10. A system as set forth in claim 7 wherein all of said means are initiated at nearly a same time such that the respective backups are substantially consistent with each other.
11. A system as set forth in claim 7 wherein the queue definition backup means request said definitions of said queues from a program instance, and the queue authorization backup means request said authorizations from said program instance.

12. A system as set forth in claim 7 wherein said program is a middleware program
13. A method for backing up a user program instance which has locked a queue definition file containing definitions of queues and authorizations for accessing the queues, and which has not locked a configuration file identifying the user program instance, said method comprising the steps of:
- a backup program querying said user program instance for the definitions of said queues and the authorizations for said queues such that said user program instance retains the lock on said queue definition file, and in response, said user program reading said definitions and authorizations from said queue definition file and furnishing them to said backup program; and
- said backup program directly reading said configuration file without querying said user program for said configuration file and without locking said configuration file.
14. A method as set forth in claim 13 wherein said configuration file specifies a name and location of said user program instance.